

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(DO/EO/US)****10/549470**

In re national phase of:

Applicant(s): Masaru SHIMIZU et al.
International Application No.: PCT/JP2004/003800
International Filing Date: 19 March 2004
Priority Date Claimed: 27 March 2003
Title of Invention: FOLDING APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING
WORN ARTICLE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1345

Sir:

1. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, pending applications, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is enclosed except for: (a) pending applications or (b) those previously cited or submitted to the Office in the following application(s) upon which this application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120:

Serial No.: _____
Filing Date: _____

Regarding any document, publication or other information for which a date is not given on the attached PTO-1449, Applicant(s) believe(s) the same may qualify as "prior" art to this application and should be treated accordingly, although Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to contest the prior art status of any document, publication or information, should issue arise.

2. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth in the following document(s):

(a) X Copy of each English language version of a search report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office of each document being submitted from the search report.

(b) X Attachment entitled "Concise Explanation of Relevance of Non-English Language Documents".

3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) this Statement is being filed (one must be checked):

(a) X Within 3 months of the filing date, date of entry into the National Stage, or filing date of CPA.

(b) _____ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. If this Statement is not filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, the required certification is given below or, in the absence thereof, the Office is authorized to charge the required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988 for consideration of this Statement.

(c) _____ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits after a first or second submission after final rejection under 37 C.F.R. 1.129(a).

10/549470

2005 Rsc'd PCT/PTO 14 SEP 2005

- (d) After the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance.
- (1) The required certification is given below, or
- (2) Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement, or
- (3) Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988
- (e) After the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Petition hereby is made for consideration of this Statement and the required certification is indicated below.
- (1) Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), or
- (2) Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

4. Certification (if applicable)

- (a) The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.
- (b) The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully Submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

By



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Form PTO-1449 (Modified)		Atty Docket No. 107549470	Express Mail No.
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT		YMMRP0101US EV671713964US	
(Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Rec'd PCT/PTO 14 SEP 2005 Masaru SHIMIZU et al.	
		Filing Date September 14, 2005	Group Not Yet Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date (MM/YYYY)	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date if Appropriate
	2,900,934	08/1959	D.N. Judelson			
	3,745,947	07/1973	Brocklehurst			
	3,828,367	08/1974	Bourgeois			
	5,711,832	01/1998	Glaug et al..			
	6,546,987 B1 (corresponds to JP 2000-0255518)	04/2003	Tachibana et al.			
	6,722,494 B2	04/2004	Nakakado			
	6,913,664 B2 (corresponds to JP 2003-038566)	07/2005	Umebayashi et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date (MM/YYYY)	Country	Class	Sub-class	Translation	
						Yes	No
	2003-038566	02/2003	JP			Abstract	
	2000-255518	09/2000	JP			Abstract	
	04-197963 A	07/1992	JP			Abstract	
	62-32838	08/1987	JP				X
	2004-043179 A	02/2004	JP			Abstract	
	1 270 480 A2	01/2003	EP				
	01/44086 A1	06/2001	WO			Abstract	
	1 362 815 A2	11/2003	EP				

OTHER ART

Examiner Initial	Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.
	International Search Report for corresponding Application No. PCT/JP2004/003800, mailed April 20, 2004.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and

not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Information Disclosure Statement PTO-1449 (Modified)

The identification of any reference is not intended to be, and should not be understood as being, an admission that such publication, in fact, constitutes "prior art" within the meaning of applicable law since, for example, a given reference may have a later effective date than first seems apparent or the reference may have an effective date which can be antedated. The "prior art" status of any reference is a matter to be resolved during prosecution.

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